C/C/U

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Juneau Area Office
Box 3-8000
Juneau, Alaska 99801

May 13, 1970

Memorandum

To: Commissioner, Washington, D. C.
Attention: Tribal Operations

From: Area Director, Juneau

Subject: Village of Dot Lake Constitution and By-laws

We are forwarding a Constitution and By-laws for the Village of Dot Lake, Alaska. The village operates on the traditional basis and have operated without a formalized constitution. By the adoption of this constitution, they have formalized their traditional council operation.

Area Director

Attachments

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
of the
Village of DOT LAKE

Alaska

PREAMBLE

We, a group of residents of DOT LAKE, Alaska having a common bond of residence, in order to promote our welfare through the development of governmental and economic enterprises, do establish this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be Village of Dot Lake.

ARTICLE II - DEFINITION OF TERRITORY

The jurisdiction of this Council shall be in and around Dot Lake Village. (Define here the exterior boundaries of your village where the jurisdiction of this Constitution and Bylaws will cover.)

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section I - All persons whose names shall appear on the census roll being all members of this village residing in Dot Lake shall be the members of this Community.

Section 2 - a. New members. All Children of any member, who are residents of Dot Lake shall be members of this Community.

b. Any person who becomes a resident of Dot Lake may be adopted by the Council by a majority vote in its regularly called meeting.

Section 3 - Definition of Adult. Any person who is 19 years of age or older will be considered an adult.

ARTICLE IV - THE COUNCIL

Section 1 - There shall be a Council composed of a Chief and three (3) members elected by the adult members of the Community.

Section 2 - The Council shall represent the community in all its undertakings and shall exercise the powers of the Community enumerated in this Consititution.

Section 3 - Each member of the Council shall serve for a term of 2 years.

ARTICLE V - POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

Section 1 - To do all things for the common good which it has done or has had the right to do in the past and which are not against Federal and the State Law as may apply.

Section 2 - To deal with the Federal Government and its agencies and the State Government and its agencies on behalf of the community; to deal with any person, firm, corporation or municipality on behalf of the community.

Section 3 - To provide for filling vacancies in office consistent with this Consititution.

Section 4 - To levy dues, fees and assesments for community purposes on members of the community and to provide for their collection and enforcement through its ordinances, for the good of the community. No such assessments shall be laid except by resolution of the council at any regularly called meeting.

Section 5 - The Council may have and use such other powers as may be given to it by the Federal or State Government.

ARTICLE VI - CHANGE OF OFFICERS

Section 1 - Any officer of the Council or official of the community who is convicted of a felony or any other offense involving dishonesty or moral turpitude shall forfeit his office.

Section 2 - If the office of a Council member is vacant for any reason, the Council may appoint a successor to serve until the next regular meeting of the community, at which time a member shall be elected to fill the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by a resolution of the Council or of the community which amendments, shall become effective when ratified by a majority vote of adult members, provided that at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election.

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION

The Constitution and Bylaws shall continue in existence until dissolved by a majority vote of the adult members of this Community, provided that at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election.

BYLAWS OF DOT LAKE

ARTICLE I - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 - The Chief. The Chief of the Council shall preside over all meetings of the Council and of the community, exercising the usual duties of a chairman and any others delegated to him. He may vote in Council meetings only in case of a tie. The Chief is charged with general responsibilities for the administration of the community and ordinances and resolutions.

Section 2 - The 1st Councilman. The duties of the 1st Councilman, in the absence of a Chief will be the same as those of a Chief.

Section 3 - The Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Council shall act as a chairman in the event the Chief or the 1st Councilman is absent from the Village. He shall conduct all correspondence and keep a complete and accurate record of all business transactions of the Community or of the Council. He shall record all rules and regulations and ordinances in appropriate books for the information and guidance of the community members. He shall accept, receive, receipt for, preserve and safeguard all funds for which the Council is responsible. He shall make a faithful record of such funds and shall report to the Council all receipts and expenditures and the amount and nature of all funds in his possession or custody. He shall not pay out or authorize disbursement of any funds for which he is responsible except upon authorization of the Council. The Secretary-Treasurer may be elected from within or without the Council.

Section 4 - Appointive Officers. The duties of all appointive officers, agents or committees appointed by the Council shall be clearly defined by a resolution of the Council at the time of appointment. No appointive officer shall serve for a term longer than the elective officers.

Section 5 - The Records. All accounts, records, books and minutes of the community or Council meetings shall be subject to examination by members of the community or the Council.

ARTICLE II - QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

Section 1 - No person may be a candidate for any elective office unless he has the qualifications of a voter.

Section 2 - The Chief may call such other special meetings as he may deem necessary by giving advance notice to the members of the Council.

Section 3 - The Quorum. Three Council members shall constitute a quorum for a council meeting, and for general community meetings, one-third of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4 - Careful and accurate record in the form of minutes shall be kept of all regular and special meetings of the Council and preserved in the appropriate files of the Council.

ARTICLE IV - RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

Section 1 - All members of the Village 19 years of age or over shall have the right to vote in village meetings and elections.

Section 2 - Members of the village shall have the right to speak and meet freely in a peaceable way.

Section 3 - Members of the village shall have equal chance to share in the benefits of the village.

ARTICLE V - RULE MAKING POWER

The Council shall have power to make rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI - ADOPTION

This Constitute and Bylaws shall be in effect when it is agreed to by a majority vote of the village members voting in an election called for the purpose; Provided That at least 30 per cent of the voting membership take part. The persons entitled to vote are all the adult residents in the village of DOT LAKE Alaska.

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

We, the undersigned members of the village having been chosen to be the election judges by the majority of the members, certify that we were present at an election called for the purpose of adopting this Constitution and Bylaws on MARCH 24, 1970, ; that the foregoing was duly adopted at such election by a vote of 11 for, and 0 against, where at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

Chairman, Election Board

Election Member